

The Chapter Letter

The Fourth Sunday before Advent and All Souls' Day
Sunday 2 November 2025



8.30 a.m. Holy Communion (BCP): The Collect, Epistle, and Gospel for the Twentieth Sunday after Trinity begin on page 188 of the Book of Common Prayer.

Welcome: A very warm welcome to the Cathedral, particularly if you are a visitor or here for the first time. We would be delighted to meet you, so do please make yourself known to one of the clergy after the service. Everybody is always welcome to stay and enjoy time together over tea and filter coffee after the Cathedral Eucharist, where there are Welcomers available - please do seek them out if you have questions or simply to chat.

Remembrance at Wells Cathedral: 1945 – 2025

Tapestry of Black Britons: As part of our Remembrance activities, Wells Cathedral is proud to host the thought-provoking exhibition *Tapestry of Black Britons* from **4 – 28 November**. This powerful display highlights the contribution of Black British, Caribbean, African and Asian service personnel during the Second World War. Alongside it, the Chapter House will feature a Remembrance Exhibition, showcasing artwork created by schools and community groups.

Tapestry of Black Britons – Preview Event: On **Tuesday 4 November** at 7.00 p.m., you are invited to join us for a unique opportunity to preview the exhibition and an evening of conversation with Paula Ogun Hector, the artist and curator; and Susann Savidge, Chair of the Somerset African Caribbean Network. Special guest Eddy Smythe will present *'The Life of Flying Officer John Smythe, QC, OBE, MBE'* – a remarkable tribute to his father, featured in the tapestry. Free tickets are available via Eventbrite.

Duruflé Requiem for Remembrance Sunday: On **Sunday 9 November** at 3.00 p.m., the Cathedral Choir will join with Wells Cathedral School Chamber Choir to offer a devotional performance of Maurice Duruflé's Requiem, interspersed with readings, and with the now familiar and much appreciated 'poppy drop'. Admission is free with a retiring collection in aid of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and Wells Cathedral.

Act of Remembrance: On Armistice Day, **Tuesday 11 November**, there will be a short Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial in the North Transept at 11.00 a.m. These gatherings have grown markedly in recent years.

Talk: Emperor Haile Selassie I in Bath and Wells: His Journey, His Faith: On **Wednesday 12 November** at 7.00 p.m. there will be a talk on Emperor Haile Selassie I. Visual anthropologist Professor Shawn Hailemariam Sobers will draw on his extensive work on Emperor Haile Selassie I to illustrate the impact of the Orthodox Ethiopian Church within Christianity.

Fairfield House Operations Manager, Ras Benji, will discuss his research on the Emperor's life in exile during World War II, and his discovery that the Emperor came to worship at Wells Cathedral. Paula Ogun Hector, artist and curator of Tapestry of Black Britons, will also be speaking. Admission is free with a retiring collection in aid of Wells Cathedral.

Save the Dates: On **Tuesday 11 November**, there will be a special Evensong and reception to mark the start of COP30, the UN's annual climate change conference. Br Sam, a Franciscan brother of the Society of St Francis, will speak at the reception. Wine will be served and donations are warmly invited to help cover the cost.

On **Sunday 16 November**, Choral Evensong will mark the work of Marie Curie and Macmillan Cancer Support. Refreshments will be available after Evensong, prior to the Congregational Meeting. We hope that many of you will be able to attend both Choral Evensong and the Congregational Meeting.

Organ Recital: The next lunchtime Organ Recital will take place on **Thursday 13 November** at 1.05 p.m., and will be given by David Bednall, highly acclaimed organist, conductor and composer. Admission is included with entry to the Cathedral, whether as a paid ticket or with a valid admission pass. There will be a retiring collection in aid of the Grand Organ Appeal. For further details see: www.wellsgrandorganappeal.org.uk

Wells Relaxed Networking Breakfast: Mogers Drewett are hosting another free Networking Breakfast on **Thursday 13 November** from 8.30 a.m. until 10.00 a.m. in The Loft. Enjoy a relaxed atmosphere, fresh pastries and breakfast butties while making new friendships and professional connections. Tickets can be obtained via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wells-relaxed-networking-breakfast-tickets-1437490305199?aff=oddtcreator>

Extra-Ordinary General Meeting of the Friends of Wells Cathedral: An Extra-Ordinary General Meeting will be held on **Saturday 15 November** at 11.00 a.m. in the Lady Chapel. Friends should have received a notice of this event and the agenda for the meeting contains two main items, the election of a new Chairman and the Grand Organ Appeal. 15 November will follow the same pattern as Friends' Day and will include a lunch and free tours for Friends of Wells Cathedral. New Friends are always welcome and you can join online on the Friends website: www.wellsfriends.org/about/

William Newton Newey, Friends Secretary.

Armonico Consort presents: Karl Jenkins, The Armed Man: On **Thursday 20 November** at 7.00 p.m., the Armonico Consort will be performing The Armed Man. Commissioned by the Royal Armouries to mark the new millennium, Karl Jenkins' work is dedicated to the victims of the Kosovo conflict, whose tragedy was unfolding as it was being composed. Blending genres and cultures, and embracing the full range of emotions that the war evokes, Jenkins conveys a powerful message for world peace. The Armonico Consort will be joined by the forces of hundreds of children from their Academy choirs in the region, helping recreate the performance initially intended by the composer. To book tickets, please use the Eventbrite website: <https://Armonico-ArmedMan-WellsCathedral.eventbrite.co.uk>

Pre-Advent Retreat: The Reverend Prebendary Narinder Tegally, one of our Priest Vicars, is leading a pre-Advent retreat at The Ammerdown Centre, Radstock, from **Friday 21 – Sunday 23 November**. Narinder will lead retreatants to prepare for the Advent time of waiting through prayer, contemplation (using Lectio Divina), music, art, silence and reflection. The cost for a residential retreat is £395 (£254 for non-residential participants). For further information, or to book, please telephone (01761) 433709 or visit the website: <https://www.ammerdown.org/WhatsOn/1522-/Pre-Advent-Retreat>

Lecture - Sources of Unity, from Daily Prayer to the Sunday Creed: All are warmly invited to a lecture being organised by the Canon Chancellor at 6.00 p.m. on **Tuesday 25 November** at Wells Cathedral. The World Council of Churches European President, The Reverend Dr Susan Durber, will be speaking about the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea, and what it means for us today. No ticket is needed. The lecture will follow immediately after Evensong, which takes place at 5.15 p.m. Post-lecture refreshments are available from The Loft (either eat in or take away) and should be pre-booked using this link, please: <https://pre-advent-retreat-eveningrefreshments.eventbrite.co.uk>

Carols by Candlelight: The Carols by Candlelight Concerts are returning for 2025 on **Friday 19, Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 December!** Immerse yourself in a world of choral classics sung by the renowned Wells Cathedral Choir, and witness the Cathedral aglow with over 3,000 twinkling candles.

Tickets for the concerts are now available through the Cathedral website: <https://www.wellscathedral.org.uk/candlelight>

Charity of the Month: In the South Quire Aisle, you will find a noticeboard where each month different charities are invited to publicise information about their work and where it is possible for individuals to make donations to that charity. In November, the focus is on the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal. Founded in 1921, the Appeal raises funds for the Royal British Legion's vital work supporting serving personnel, veterans and their families throughout their lives with whatever the need, whenever it's needed.

USPG: Please continue to save stamps, coins, postcards and badges (civil and military, metal or cloth) for the United Society Partners in the Gospel, an Anglican mission, using the box on the table in the North Transept.

Pastoral Care: The Cathedral Pastoral Care team comprises: Wendy Haslam (Pastoral Care Coordinator), Caroline Byrne, Reverend Edward Day, Kate Day, Reverend Rosey Lunn, Patricia Hellier, Lissy Manners, Julian Tucker and Fran Wood. Members of the team visit individuals as needed including the provision of home communion. Visits are co-ordinated by Wendy Haslam.

If you have pastoral matters to raise or would like a visit, please contact Wendy on pastoralcare@wellscathedral.org.uk or 07815 309527. You can also call the Cathedral Office (01749 674483).

Safeguarding at Wells Cathedral: Wells Cathedral is committed to the safeguarding of all people. For details please visit:

<https://www.wellscathedral.org.uk/safeguarding>

You can report a concern using the same online link or by contacting either Joanne Austin, Diocesan and Safeguarding case worker:

01749 588905, joanne.austin@bathwells.anglican.org

or Ben Goodhind, Diocesan and Cathedral Safeguarding Manager,

01749 588917, ben.goodhind@bathwells.anglican.org

This week at Wells Cathedral

Monday – Friday (inclusive)

The Morning Liturgy is celebrated at 8.00 a.m. in the Lady Chapel.

3 MONDAY: Richard Hooker, priest, teacher of the faith, 1600

5.15 p.m. **Evening Prayer**

4 TUESDAY

5.15 p.m. **Choral Evensong** (Boy Choristers and Vicars Choral)

7.00 p.m. **Tapestry of Black Britons – Preview Event**

5 WEDNESDAY

10.00 a.m. **Eucharist** (Common Worship Order I, Traditional)

5.15 p.m. **Evening Prayer**

6 THURSDAY

5.15 p.m. **Choral Evensong** (Girl Choristers and Vicars Choral)

7 FRIDAY: Willibrord, bishop, 739

5.15 p.m. **Choral Evensong** (Chapel Choir of King's College, Taunton)

8 SATURDAY: Saints and martyrs of England

5.15 p.m. **Choral Evensong** (Girl Choristers and Vicars Choral)

9 SUNDAY: REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

8.30 a.m. **Holy Communion** (BCP), Quire/Presbytery

10.30 a.m. **Cathedral Eucharist** (Wells Cathedral Chamber Choir)

Preacher: The Reverend Canon Tim Stevens, *Precentor*

3.00 p.m. **Durufé Requiem for Remembrance Sunday** (Wells Cathedral Choir with Wells Cathedral School Chamber Choir)